

Abstract

A closed circuit television (CCTV) observation system accommodates a video feed from one or more wireless camera/transmitters to a single monitor, which also provides inputs for wired cameras. In the preferred embodiment wireless receivers are implemented into a multi-channel monitor, so that either wired or wireless cameras may be used, depending upon the user's surveillance requirements and the availability of cable pathways at the installation location. A video surveillance system according to the invention may incorporate different combinations of wired cameras and wireless cameras, and may sequence through real-time video images generated by the various wireless cameras while providing a display of multiple camera segments, so that by a combination of screen splitting and camera sequencing a single monitor can be used to efficiently monitor cameras in many different positions, in real-time. The monitor may be equipped with a video grabber card, which outputs the video image displayed on the monitor to a processing appliance such as a personal computer via a computer-compatible interface.

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